

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A TV broadcasting system comprising:
an outward broadcast link to supply a multi-channel video signal to reach each of a plurality of user receiver installations, and
a return link from each of said plurality of users, said return channel being provided over a terrestrial channel via a terrestrial network comprising a plurality of nodes, said nodes being provided by at least some of said plurality of user installations.
2. The system of claim 1, wherein said outward broadcast link is a satellite link.
3. The system of claim 1, wherein said outward broadcast link is a terrestrial link.
4. The system of claim 1, wherein said terrestrial network further supports a second forward link to each of said plurality of user receiver installations.
5. The system of claim 1, wherein said terrestrial network is a wide area network (WAN) operative substantially in accordance with IEEE standard 802.16 or IEEE standard 802.20.
6. The system of claim 1, wherein at least some of said nodes comprise support for a communications hotspot.
7. The system of claim 6, wherein said communications hotspot is substantially in accordance with IEEE Standard 802.11.
8. The system of claim 1, comprising a plurality of terrestrial networks.
9. The system of claim 1, wherein said terrestrial network comprises a central base station for broadcasting to other nodes thereof using a mesh algorithm.

10. The system of claim 9, further comprising IP core infrastructure to transmit data between a head end unit and said central base station.

11. The system of claim 1, comprising a head end unit to direct TV channel content over said outward broadcast link and to manage interactive services for respective users using data received from respective users over said return link.

12. A TV broadcasting method comprising:
providing an outward broadcast link to reach each of a plurality of user receiver installations,
forming at least some of said plurality of user receiver installations into nodes of a terrestrial two-way transmission network, and
providing at least a return link from each of said plurality of users via said network.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein said outward broadcast link is a satellite link.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein said outward broadcast link is a terrestrial link.

15. The method of claim 12, wherein said network further supports a second outward link to each of said plurality of user receiver installations.

5 16. The method of claim 12, wherein said network is a wide area network (WAN) substantially in accordance with IEEE standard 802.16 or IEEE standard 802.20.

10 17. The method of claim 12, wherein at least some of said nodes comprise support for a communications hotspot.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein said communications hotspot is substantially in accordance with IEEE Standard 802.11.
19. The method of claim 12, comprising building a plurality of networks to cover a region.
20. The method of claim 12, comprising providing said network with a central base station for broadcasting to other nodes thereof using a mesh algorithm.
21. The method of claim 20, further comprising utilizing IP core infrastructure to transmit data between a head end unit and said central base station.
22. The method of claim 12, comprising providing a head end unit to direct TV channel content over said outward broadcast link and to manage interactive services for respective users using data received from respective users over said network.